

Wednesday 17th May 2023

School Budget Cuts

As you are aware, the Education Authority has recently announced huge cuts to school budgets. For Old Warren Primary School, this has resulted in a reduction of **tens of thousands of pounds**. The school budget is used to pay staffing costs, purchasing of new resources and equipment, utility bills, staff training and maintenance costs.

Old Warren Primary School also benefitted from a number of EA grants, enabling the school to run educational schemes and after school clubs. The EA announced that the following schemes would also be cut:

- Extended Schools:** Free Breakfast Club
Subsidised KS1 After School Club
Talk Boost (Additional support for Nursery and P2 pupils)
- Happy Healthy Minds:** School counselling service
- Engage Project:** Funding for an extra teacher in KS2 to support pupils after the Covid pandemic
Funding for an additional classroom assistant in Nursery
- Peace IV Shared Education:** Enabled our pupils to share learning experiences with children from other backgrounds. (EU Funding Ended March 23)

All of the above funding was used to support our pupils and help develop the curriculum in our school.

As Principal, I feel most strongly that recent cuts to school budgets across Northern Ireland, are disastrous for our education system. The cuts are extremely deep and difficult to manage. However, we will continue to try and source additional funding to support the school budget and will review ways in which we can live within school budgetary constraints.

I would appreciate if you could return the survey overleaf. This will help to gauge parent thoughts and the possibility of running an after-school service next year.

Our school will continue to try and provide a first-class education for your child. **The children who attend Old Warren Primary School deserve it!**

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Campbell

Parental Questionnaire

Name of Child:

Class:

Name of Parent:

Have you any comments to make about the proposed budget cuts?

Breakfast Club (Minimum of 10 children needed)

During the school year, has your child attended the Breakfast Club? Did they enjoy it?

Are you prepared to pay to use the service next year? (£3-4 per session)

KS1 After School Club 1:50- 2:45pm (Minimum of 10 children needed)

During the school year, has your child attended the KS1 After School Club? Did they enjoy it?

Are you prepared to pay to use the service next year? (£3-4 per session)